GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2860
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
SALE OF WHEAT IN OPEN MARKET
Chandrappan Shri C.K.;Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Reddy Shri Suravaram Sudhakar;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to sell four lakh tonnes of wheat in the open market to check the price of wheat in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tender system was adopted for sale of the said wheat;

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the floor price quoted in the tender floated therefor; and

(e) the extent to which the said floor price was more/less than the then prevailing open market price?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a)&(b): Government had decided to sell upto 4.00 lakh MT of wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme

(Domestic) in various States during the months of February and March, 2007 to check rise in the prices of wheat.

(c)&(d): Tenders were called for 2.40 lakh MT of wheat in the first phase by the Food Corporation of India

(FCI) in the States of Maharashtra, Orissa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Gujarat. The floor price for these tenders was fixed at Rs. 1232.58 per quintal.

(e): The wholesale prices of wheat at major centres where intervention by open sale was targeted were ruling above this floor price at the time of calling tenders.